

# The Blurb

A Publication of  
THE PHIL-MONT MOBILE RADIO CLUB, INC.  
c/o 641 KISMET ROAD, PHILADELPHIA, PA 19115-1114

CLINTON R. SPENCER, JR.

W3BBBB

R



AMATEUR RADIO: WHEN NORMAL COMMUNICATIONS FAIL!

FIRST CLASS MAIL

# The Blurb

JANUARY 1999



Same  
OTHER  
CORNER

PHILMONT'S  
Auction  
JAN.13-1999  
Welcomes  
EVERY ONE!

YER NOT SATISFIED!  
TELL YA WHAT  
IM GONNA DO!



THANK TO W3CH

Public Service Since 1949



**VOLUME 48**  
**NUMBER 10**

is published monthly by, and for, the members of **The PHIL-MONT MOBILE RADIO CLUB, INC.** whose purpose is to promote Amateur Radio in general, and Mobile Radio in particular. Copying and quoting is permitted with a credit line. We gladly exchange publications with other amateur radio clubs; requests should be sent to the Editor. Subscriptions are available to nonmembers for \$10 addressed to the Treasurer. The club meets at 7:30 PM on the *second* non-holiday Wednesday of every month at **The Franklin Institute Science Museum**, Benjamin Franklin Parkway at 20th Street, Philadelphia. Enter from Winter Street or the parking garage on 21st street. **ALL VISITORS ARE WELCOME!**

Amateur Radio License Examinations are held on the *first* non-holiday Thursday of every month at The Franklin Institute Science Museum—doors close at 6:30 PM—SHARP!

**CLUB INFORMATION**

Mailing address: P.O. Box 88, Abington, PA 19001  
Internet Web site: <http://www.phil-mont.org>  
E-mail: [info@phil-mont.org](mailto:info@phil-mont.org)

**2-meter repeater:** 147.03 MHz (Main site Roxborough receiver requires no PL, but transmits 91.5 Hz.)

Additional off-site receivers require the following subaudible tones:

Southampton 131.8 Hz—Center City 103.5 Hz—Lansdale 114.8 Hz—Broomall 85.4 Hz

**70-cm repeater:** 444.80 MHz (186.2 Hz PL)

**Simplex:** 147.51 MHz

**24-hour club information at W3AA:** 215-448-1139

**STATIONS**

**W3AA** - (Formerly W3TKQ) The Franklin Institute Science Museum, Philadelphia, PA - Trustee WU3I; Manager: W3STW

The club sponsors this world-class demonstration station, and welcomes all licensed amateurs to operate it.

**W3AA** packet BBS frequency: 144.99 MHz: [w3aa@w3aa.#sepa.pa.usa.noam](mailto:w3aa@w3aa.#sepa.pa.usa.noam)

**W3AA** e-mail: [w3aa@phil-mont.org](mailto:w3aa@phil-mont.org)

**W3EM** - Field Day and special events station - Trustee W3VVS

**W3QV** - 147.03 MHz repeater - Ridge & Port Royal Avenues, Philadelphia, PA - Trustee W3BBB

**OFFICERS**

**PRESIDENT:** W3CH, Russ Stafford, Box 379, Eagleville, PA 19408-0379; 610-631-3401 x902  
[w3ch@hdj.com](mailto:w3ch@hdj.com)—[w3ch@w3ch.#sepa.pa.usa.noam](mailto:w3ch@w3ch.#sepa.pa.usa.noam)

**VICE PRESIDENT:** AA3EP, Charlie Weigand, 91 Moyer Road, Pottstown, PA 19464; 610-323-1050  
[aa3ep@aol.com](mailto:aa3ep@aol.com)—[aa3ep@w3ch.#sepa.pa.usa.noam](mailto:aa3ep@w3ch.#sepa.pa.usa.noam)

**SECRETARY:** N3PVO, Carol Sebzda, 761 North Hills Avenue, Ardsley, PA 19038; 215-884-5518  
[n3pvo@aol.com](mailto:n3pvo@aol.com)

**TREASURER:** K2BN, Mike Tannenbaum, 545 Cardinal Drive, Drexler, PA 19025; 215-542-5991  
[k2bn@agtannenbaum.com](mailto:k2bn@agtannenbaum.com) packet: [K2BN@w3ch.#sepa.pa.usa.noam](mailto:K2BN@w3ch.#sepa.pa.usa.noam)

**DIRECTORS**

N3PVO (01); WU3I (01); W3RM (01); W3GQD (99); KB3IV (99); N3XKE (99); W3STW (A)

**COMMITTEES**

**Archives:** W3IN; **Audit:** KE3OP; **Awards:** AA3EP; **Blurb folding:** WB3KOJ & WB3KOH; **Budget:** K3KUD; **Directory:** WB3KOJ & W3IIM; **DX:OPEN**; **Education:** W3CH; **Emerg.Coor.:** N3XKE; **Field Day:** WU3I; **Internet:** W3IIM; **Membership:** W3LEN; **Net Control:** KB3IV; **Publicity:** W3RM

**Program:** AA3EP; **Public Service:** AA3EP; **Publicity:** N3IEI; **Refreshments:** W3AOK; **Repeater:** W3BBB; **Skywarn:** N3LCV; **Special Events:** N3WCO; **Sunshine:** WU3I; **Youth:** KE3ZY; **TVI:** W3VVS; **VE Program:** ND3Q; **W3AA Trustee:** WU3I; **W3AA Station Manager:** W3STW; **Welcome:** K3CJ.

**NET SCHEDULE**

Sunday	09:30	147.03	MHzFM	"Sunday Morning 2 Meter Net
	10:00	28.393	(+ or - for QRM)	MHzSSB "10-on-10 Net"
	10:20	3.993	MHzSSB	75 Meter Net
Tuesday	20:00	147.03	MHzFM	CW Practice Net

**JANUARY BIRTHDAYS**

- 03 Rita Gutman (XYL W3FOG)  
Jon Verlin - KA3VVU
- 05 Dorene Weiner (XYL N3LCV)
- 06 Holly Paulson - KA3MSJ
- 08 Matthew Adair - N3YAQ
- 13 Jon Balch - W3KG
- 15 Denise Burstein - KB3ANO\*  
Karen Lenczynski (XYL KA3EIP)
- 16 Bill Sullivan - N3QMH
- 17 Lee Kovnat (XYL WB3JUA)  
Eileen Weigand (XYL AA3EP)
- 18 Marion Bubeck (XYL K3GNM)
- 19 Babs Clayton (XYL K3HIE)  
Miriam Kravitz - KB2EUA (XYL KD2CR)  
Bill Mescanti - K2LK
- 22 Benji Jack - N3VYA
- 23 Dean Spare - N3TAL
- 25 Ronald Johnson - N3ZO
- 28 Gene Gadlin - K3YW\*  
Bob Schmileske - K3KUD
- 29 Joe Hochreiter, Jr. - WA3KTZ\*
- 30 Vira Johnston (XYL K3VXU)  
Bill Kane - N3OOL
- 31 Tom Dunne - KB3AIB  
Fred Reichert - KA3BET

\*Indicates New Member - 1998

HELP PHIL-MONT Are you planning to join ARRL or renew your current membership? Help P.M.R.C. by joining or renewing through the club... Mike Tannenbaum - K2BN for details.

DIRECTORY UPDATE With this BLURB you received your Dues Invoice & Directory Information Sheet. Please verify the information and return it with your dues & optional Franklin Institute Donation to: MIKE TANNENBAUM - K2BN - 545 Cardinal Drive - Drexler PA 19025... Your early reply will save the club addtional funds and will speed-up the publishing of the 1999 P.M.R.C. Directory.

1999 LICENSE EXPIRATIONS APRIL - WA3YJR, N3PP; AUG. - KA3MHO; NOV.

- NZ3Z; DEC. - W3UY

MEMBERSHIP STATS will resume in March. ☺

**"DON'T TAILGATE... WAIT"**—for the courtesy ☺!

**PHIL-MONT  
BIRTHDAYS  
&  
TID-BYTES**

Don Gordon  
WB3KOJ

**NEWSLETTERS EXCHANGED**

Anne Arundel Radio Club (Maryland)  
Baltimore Radio Amateur Television Society (BRATS)  
Cherryville Repeater Association (New Jersey)  
Delaware-Lehigh Amateur Radio Club (DLARC)  
Delmont Radio Club  
Fort Myers Amateur Radio Club (Florida)  
Marple Newtown Amateur Radio Club  
Mid-Atlantic Amateur Radio Club (MARC)  
Penn Wireless Association  
R F Hill Amateur Radio Club  
Tampa Amateur Radio Club (Florida)  
Warminster Amateur Radio Club  
Worldradio Magazine

Exchanges with additional parties are welcomed.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Net Control stations should read the following announcements before asking if there are any more announcements for the net.*

- On January 6 the Director's meeting will be held in Lansdale at the home of W3BBB.
- VE testing will be held on January 7 at 6:30 P.M. The 1998 ARRL VE test fee is \$6.35, but there is no charge for the Novice test.
- The General Meeting will be held on January 13. The program will be the Third Annual Auction. Bring all those things you want to sell.



## The PREZ SEZ



**H**appy New Year, Phil-Monsters! I would like to say Happy Birthday to Phil-Mont! As you should all know, 1999 is the 50th Birthday for Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club. Yes, in November of this year PMRC will be 50 years old! There are plans to have a Birthday Banquet for the club in November. There will be more on this subject as the year progresses.

This month is the BIG fund-raiser for our club. Please make every effort to participate in the Auction on January 13th. Talk it up to friends and fellow Hams. It is always a tremendous amount of fun and it makes money for the club which keep the dues down. So, pass the word, bring a friend and plan to attend this event.

At the last meeting, our yearly Town Meeting, it was mentioned that the members would like to have a trip to the A.R.R.L. headquarters in Newington, CT. This may be a possibility. We will look into the cost and list it in the Blurb soon.

Just a few short notes: Our club did OK with helping out on public service in 1998. I say OK, because of over 200 Phil-Mont members, no more than 25 hams participated in the big events that used 123 hams. We should have had more out there than we did. For those members who help out every time there is an event — Thank You for all your help! For those of you who do not; remember you should try to do at least one public service event each year, more if you can. I have noted over the years that once someone participates in an event they have enjoyed the experience enough to come back year after year. So come on out!

On to Field Day. We did well in 1998 thanks to a lot of hard work by many long time Field Day PMRC members. In 1999 I'm told we are going to take Field Day by storm!

Last, but certainly not least, my Big Thank You goes to my lovely bride, Christine, N3WCO who, besides putting up with me and loving me, both very hard sometimes, edits this and everything that I send into the Blurb. She puts in time behind the scenes for Phil-Mont. So, the first Big Thank You, for the new year, goes to Chris, N3WCO! I'm going to keep it short this month and just wish everyone a happy, safe and prosperous new year!

73 de Russ, W3CH

Come to a Phil-Mont meeting,  
and see what all the talk is about!

# UPCOMING

Jan. 6 Directors' Meeting at W3BBB  
 Jan. 7 License Examinations at The Franklin Institute  
 Jan. 13 General meeting - Third Annual Auction

## PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS

Charlie Weigand, AA3EP  
 Phone 610-323-1050

Packet: aa3ep@w3ch.#sepa.pa.usa.noam  
 E-mail: aa3ep@aol.com

Russ Stafford, W3CH

Phone: (610)631-3401 ext. 902

Packet: w3ch@w3ch.#sepa.pa.usa.noam  
 E-mail: w3ch@hdj.com

The MS Thank -you Pizza Party will be held on March 10, 1999

The WALK on April 18 and May 2

The Chester County Challenge will be held on May 16, 1999

The PA Dutch in Lancaster County will be held on June 12, 1999

The MS City to Shore will be held on September 25 and 26, 1999

Brian's Run will be held in December of 1999



## VE Test Locations

Confirm all information, in advance, with the contact person. Licensed applicants must bring the original, and one photocopy of their license. All applicants, including children, must show two other types of ID. Also bring the original, and a copy, of any Certificate of Successful Completion needed to prove current status. The ARRL VEC's 1999 test fee is \$6.45; there is no charge for a Novice test.

- **THE FRANKLIN INSTITUTE**  
 Monthly, 1st Thursday—Dusty Rhoads, ND3Q  
 215- 879-0505 day, 215- 448-1139 24-hours
- **BELLMAWR, NJ**  
 Diane Nafis  
 609-227-6281
- **BRISTOL**  
 George LeNoir  
 215-943-4886
- **LEVITTOWN, PA**  
 David L. Heller, 215-946-1040
- **LINWOOD, PA—(Commercial & Amateur Exams.)**  
 Russ Stafford, W3CH  
 610-631-3401 x902
- **TELFORD**  
 Joseph Burgess  
 215-723-6697
- **UNIVERSITY OF PA**  
 Jeff DePolo  
 215- 898-8538 shack, 215-337-7383 home
- **WARMINSTER**  
 Tom Michaud, WA3TQJ  
 (215) 343-3494
- **WILMINGTON**  
 Giselle Walls  
 302-478-2757

## 1998 — A Good Year for Public Service

1998 started out with the MS Walks in April and May. The weather was great on both weekends and many clubs helped out.

This event was a great place to train for the larger event to come.

Next was the grandaddy of all, the MS-150 City to Shore Bike Tour. This event had 123 hams helping over a two-day weekend. We had just under 5,000 riders and made over one million dollars for MS, not a bad weekend's work. Some of the problem areas, once again, were the medical things, mainly ambulances. This, as always, will need work. The other problem was on Sunday, people leaving before they were secured to leave. Just a reminder that the people in the back (or last riders) need your help more than the pro riders at the front. They are tired and tend to fall down more easily.

Our last event for 1998 was Brian's Run out in West Chester PA. This is a great training event for new hams. Most of the time it is just routine things like back and forth with runner numbers, but this year was different. We had 3 downed runners. One, believe it or not, was hit by a deer. She ended up with a broken rib and punctured lung. One was a runner who had a heart attack right at the finish line.

I would like to thank all of the Clubs involved in the events. They are as follows: The 96 Over The Hill Gang, Penn Wireless, Montgomery County RACES, OMIK, Camden County ARIES, Burlington County RACES, SPARC, Ocean City Emergency Management, Homesburg, and many other clubs for their support over the

year.

I would also like to thank the following repeater groups for the use of their repeater systems over the past year. Metro-Comm, Inc.(W3PS, W3CH, AA2LD, KE3LK), Burlington County (W2HOB), Penn Wireless (W3SK), Montgomery County RACES (N3ACL), N3NAB repeater group (N3NAB), the Channel 6 repeater and a few more systems that we used as backups to the above on the large events. As well as a special thanks to our own Russ, W3CH and Len, W3LEN who set up cranes and portable repeaters for the events where and when needed. Also, the crew who goes down to Ocean City ahead of time to set up net control for the MS-150. They were Jim, KE3RL; Jeff, N3NAA; Steve, WU3I; John, N3VIF and Bob, KB3ERL.

There are just too many good hams who gave of their time this past year to thank everyone, but this will be done at the BIG Thank You party! This year it will be held at the March Phil-Mont meeting.

So try not to miss it. As we move on to the new public service season, it would be nice to see more folks help out. We will be putting the applications on the Phil-Mont Web Site at [www.phil-mont.org](http://www.phil-mont.org) early this year for all the events. The dates are listed here in the Blurb for next year, so mark your calendar, early!

73, de Charlie, AA3EP

### Federal Communications Commission

1270 Fairfield Road  
 Gettysburg, PA 17325

Internet: <http://www.fcc.gov>

License Information

888-225-5322—M-F 0800-1630

Fax-On-Demand

202-418-0177

### Top Ten Signs You're Too Old to Be Trick or Treating

10. You get winded from knocking on the door.
9. You have to have another kid chew the candy for you.
8. You ask for high fiber candy only.
7. When someone drops a candy bar in your bag, you lose your balance and fall over.
6. People say, "Great Keith Richards mask!" and you're not wearing a mask.
5. When the door opens you yell, "Trick or..." and can't remember the rest.
4. By the end of the night, you have a bag full of restraining orders.
3. You have to carefully choose a costume that won't dislodge your hairpiece.
2. You're the only Power Ranger in the neighborhood with a walker.
1. You avoid going to houses where your ex-wives live.

#### Editor's Note:

The above was sent to me by Jack Haring, W3IIM. I have not had room for it until now.

### PR for Phil-Mont

What if Philmont, through W3AA, could showcase the city during the upcoming Republican National Convention? As you surely heard, Philadelphia was picked to host it. We can make our club and the Franklin Institute shine and gain some spotlight? Perhaps we could do one or more of the following:

1. Run a special events station at the Republican Nat'l Convention.
2. Run a special events station at one of the Convention Hotels.
3. Help the Franklin Institute offer open houses through extended hours during the entire period of the convention.
4. Offer supplemental public service assistance to Convention Officials or Philadelphia Police to handle the onslaught of tourists, delegates, and spouses during the convention week.
5. Contact Franklin Institute Officials, Senator Arlen Specter, Senator Rick Santorum, Mayor Ed Rendell and other politicians and ask for their support.
6. Take advantage of Photo Opportunities for QST Magazine, etc.

I'm not endorsing the Republican party. But maybe we can use the convention to show the Franklin Institute how lucky they are to be affiliated with Philmont. Hopefully this idea has generated a spark that will lead to some real brainstorming!

This is Pat Rush, WT3X.



### Minutes

#### DECEMBER DIRECTORS' MEETING Carol Sebzda, N3PVO, Secretary



The December Directors' Meeting was opened at 8:02 p.m by Russ (W3CH). The following Officers and Directors were in attendance: Russ (W3CH), Charlie (AA3EP), Carol (N3PVO), Mike (K2BN), Jim (W3BBB), Steve (WU3I), Ed (KB3IV), and Al (W3STW). The following committees reported.

**TREASURER** - Mike (K2BN) reported we had \$25.00 in receipts and \$182.86 in expenditures for the month, leaving a net change in funds of -\$157.86. W3AA had no expenditures. The Contingency Fund spent \$60.00. Currently the club has \$8,499.17 in the bank.

**BLURB** - Don (WB3KOJ) read off the list of people who currently receive a complimentary Blurb, for review. A motion was made and approved not to make any changes on the list.

**FIELD DAY** - Steve (WU3I) reported a cook will be needed for Field Day, due to the fact that his sister scheduled her wedding on Field Day.

**BUDGET** - Bob (K3KUD) reported The Budget Committee met and the Budget for 1999 has been approved.

**OLD BUSINESS** - The club's 50th anniversary, which occurs in November of 1999, came up for discussion. After ideas were exchanged, it was agreed that a questionnaire would be sent out to all members. Further discussions will be held after the questionnaires are returned to decide what, if anything, is feasible.

**NEW BUSINESS** - Al (W3STW) raised the question of Y2K compliance at W3AA in regards to some of the computer programs which are used. This situation will be looked into. Russ (W3CH) raised the question as to what the club would like to raffle this coming year. It was decided a handheld would be raffled.

With no further business to discuss, a motion was made and approved to close the meeting. The meeting was closed at 9:40 p.m by Russ (W3CH). Thanks to Don (WB3KOJ) and Natalie (WB3KOH) for hosting the meeting. □

### USS New Jersey is Starting Her Journey Here

The USS New Jersey is on its way here. As reported in the Philadelphia Inquirer, the ship will be sent through the Panama Canal before the canal is turned over to Panama. The ship will be docked in New Jersey while the final decision is being made as to where she will be permanently docked. □

# THE W 3 A A

Happy New Year to all. Here it is the last year of the Millenium and the Camp-Ins are back. If you can help with a Camp-In please Contact Jenn Seva-Kutch by the Wednesday before the Camp-In. She can be reached at 448-2195. The dates for January are: Jan. 9, Sat.; Jan. 16, Sat.; Jan. 22, Fri.,\* Jan. 23, Sat.; Jan. 29, Fri.; and Jan. 30, Sat.

\* designates all female night (must depart by 11:00 PM) You are requested to be available in the station from 7:00 to 10:00 PM.

Welcome to our new volunteers: Bud K3TPM, David N3PPE and Domonic K3VSW. They have been a big help in filling out the schedule. There has been a lot of talk that this is our last year in the Museum, Well, we haven't given up yet. Please make sure you post the out to lunch sign when you close for that purpose and keep the Station manned during the hours of 10:00 AM and 3:00 PM.

## Field Day

We have two campers for Field Day. I will be working on both during the spring, when things warm up. Any help would be appreciated. Thanks to Bill W3AOK and Albert N3XEI. We are still looking for donations of other pop- up campers, as they are ideal for our purposes. If you hear of anyone not using his trailer any more and wanting to donate it to a good cause contact Steve, WU3I.

See you at the Auction  
Steve, WU3I

## REPORT

Internet: <http://www.fi.edu/tfi/exhibits/w3aa.html>

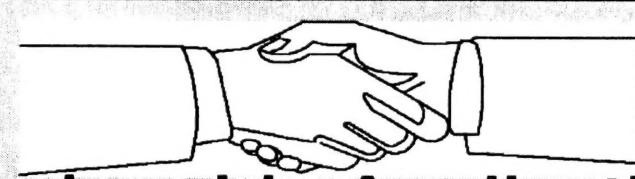
## 163rd MONTHLY VE SESSION STATISTICS SEPTEMBER

13 candidates took 18 elements  
2 new amateurs plus 3 upgrades

VE team members:

**Dusty Rhoads, ND3Q, Chairman**

Jim McCloskey, KE3OP; Carol Hutkin, K2BL; Bob Freer, W3YLT;  
Chris Brady, N3IEI; Jeff Kerber, KE3UV; Peter Butler, WB2B



## Membership Applications

**Call:** N3ZZR

**Name:** Bob Duran

**Nickname:** Bob

**Class:** Tech

**Address:** 346 Winding Way, King Of  
Prussia, PA 19406

**Occupation:** VP Credit

**Home phone:** 610-331-2166

**Business phone:**

**E-mail:** quietcan@jx.netcom.com

**Packet:** kb3dfq@w3ch.#sepa.pa.usa.noam

**Committees:**

**Call:** KB3DFQ

**Name:** Peter Grace

**Nickname:** Peter

**Class:** Tech

**Address:** 144 Liberty Ave. Norristown,  
PA 19403

**Occupation:** Student

**Home phone:** 610-539-8708

**Business phone:**

**E-mail:** pgrace@freethinkers.net

## Deer Attacks

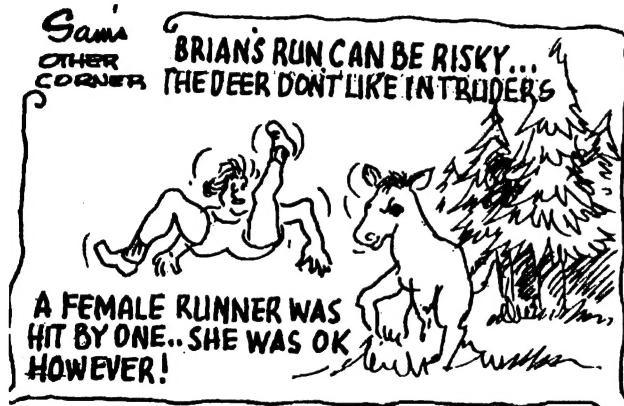
First, I would like to Thank all of the hams who braved the 70 plus degree weather and all of that sunshine to help out with Brian's Run on December 6. JIM (KE3RL), ALBERT (N3XEI), CHARLIE (AA3EP), BILL (N3QMH), RED (W3RED), JULES (KB3AFH), DAVE (N3KGG), BILL (W3AOK), RICH (KE3HG), and, of course, I was there, RUSS (W3CH).

We had two downed runners on this event. In a most unusual case, a very nice lady was running along at a fast pace (most are pro runners on this event) on the rural side of the 10k run where the woods and the weeds come right up to the side of the small country road. When, out of the blue, a deer came over a small fence and over an embankment and slammed right into her.

What are the chances of having a deer run you over? Well, Bambie got up and ran off. The runner was brought back to the finish area where she started having a hard time breathing. She was taken to the hospital, where it was found that she had a broken rib and a punctured lung. She is doing fine today (Monday 12/7), but many thanks to the support of the Hams on the route who called in and got her immediate help on this rural area of the route.

This is a perfect example of why most of these events need Hams! To get help to the participant as quickly as possible. This is the 21st running of Brian's Run. There have always been hams at this event and rarely are there downed runners. This year was the exception. The ironic thing is that this was the nicest weather we've ever experienced on this event.

Brian's Run is a small event and a great place for new helpers to learn. Yesterday they not only learned, they did a good deed for an injured runner. Jim O'Brien, the person who brings this whole event together every year, wanted to pass on to all the Hams who do these events, "Best Wishes and Thanks to everyone who helped on this year's event!"



## Minutes

### DECEMBER GENERAL MEETING

*Carol Sebzda, N3PVO, Secretary*

The 582nd General Meeting of the Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club was opened at 8:02 PM by Russ (W3CH). A motion was made and approved to waive the reading of the minutes. The following committees reported.

**TREASURER** - Mike (K2BN) reported, basically nothing happened in November. We took in a little less this month than we spent. Bottom line is we have money in the bank.

**FIELD DAY** - Steve (WU3I) reported Field Day is the last weekend in June. He will not be available for about six hours on that Saturday. A contingency plan is need for the food.

**MEMBERSHIP** - Len (W3LEN) reported we had no new members this month, but 2 new members last month. Two new applications have been received.

**PROGRAMS** - Charlie (AA3EP) reported next month's meeting will be the Auction. He is still working on a meeting for February. The March meeting will be the MS Pizza Party.

**REPEATER** - Jim (W3BBB) reported work is being done with the voter. It is causing the repeater to do strange things. Please be patient, it will get fixed.

**PUBLIC SERVICE** - Charlie (AA3EP) reported on the incident at Brian's Run where a deer ran over a woman. Over all, it was a good year.

**SUNSHINE** - Steve (WU3I) reported Wally (W3UK) is in the hospital in Florida. Jim reported George (W3CNO) passed away, he was RACES radio officer for a long time.

**VE** - Steve (WU3I) reported in 1998 we had 136 examinees, with a 55.51% overall passing rate. We licensed 44 techs, 11 generals, 4 advanced, 5 extras and 6 novices. We are up to 2200 people with about a 55% passing rate for the history of our program.

**W3AA** - Al (W3STW) reported we are trying to staff at least 2 people per day and it is working out nicely. The big hit has been the handout pictures from the new printer.

**WELCOME** - Charlie (K3CJ) reported 29 people in attendance.

**OLD BUSINESS** - Russ (W3CH) brought up the subject of Phil-Mont's 50th anniversary. After a brief discussion, the members in attendance were asked by show of hands who would be interested in having an inexpensive dinner. The show of hands was unanimously in favor of having some type of dinner. The majority of members were in favor of having some type of special membership card issued and possibly running a special event station for the occasion.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was closed at 8:22 PM by Russ (W3CH) and turned over to Jim (W3BBB) our Judge Of Election. The results of the election for officers was as follows: President - Russ (W3CH), Vice President - Charlie

*see GENERAL MEETING on page 8*

## GENERAL MEETING cont. from page 7

(AA3EP), Secretary - Art (N3LCV), Treasurer - Mike (K2BN) all of which ran unopposed. The results for the 3 Directors' positions were as follows: Steve (WU3I) 40 votes, Carol (N3PVO) 42 votes, Dick (W3RM) 36 votes and Al (W3STW) 23 votes.

It was a pleasure to serve the club as Secretary over the past 2 years. Good luck to Art (N3LCV). I know he will do a great job.  $\diamond$

## 1999 Sites for Directors Meetings.

JAN.	W3BBB
FEB.	N3LCV
MARCH	KB3IV
APRIL	KB3AFH
MAY	W3GQD
JUNE	N3AXJ
JULY	AA3EP
AUG.	W3AOK
SEPT.	W3CH
OCT.	WU3I
NOV.	K2BN
DEC.	WB3KOJ

**AMATEUR LICENSE EXAMS HELD ON THE FIRST NON-HOLIDAY THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH**  
**THE FRANKLIN INSTITUTE SCIENCE MUSEUM**  
 For information call ND3Q at 215-448-1139 or 879-0505 accessible by the handicapped  
 Registration begins at 6:00 PM  
 Doors close at 6:30 PM sharp

## SOME 1999 HAMFESTS

JAN. 31 — Odenton, MD  
 FEB. 7 — Latrobe, PA  
 FEB. 13 — Westfield, NY  
 FEB. 20 — near Horseheads, NY  
 MAR. 20 — Lewisburg  
 MAR. 27-28 — Timonium, MD  
 MAY 2 — Wrightstown, PA  
 JUNE 4-6 — Rochester, NY  
 JUNE 12 — Bloomsburg, PA  
 JUNE 12 — Cortland, NY  
 JULY 3 — Wilkes-Barre, PA  
 JULY 11 — Kimberton, PA  
 AUG. 7 — Lewistown, PA  
 SEP. 11 — Erie, PA  
 SEP. 12 — Butler, PA  
 SEP. 18 — Hamburg, NY  
 SEP. 25 — Horseheads, NY  
 SEP. 26 — Bowie, MD  
 OCT. 3 — Pack Rats - PA

## Proud Father

I have been trustee and repairman of the W3QV repeater for many years. I spend a lot of time keeping the equipment running — it's a labor of love. Every once in a while, I run into a problem that I can't handle. In every instance, my son Rick (N3DHI), has leaped into the breach to bail the "Old Man" out.

The most recent example was the complete failure of the repeater final on Monday, October 26. Rick found the problem. It was a solder migration on the fins of the output transistors.

I personally appreciate his help and take this opportunity to thank him for his efforts. We should all let him know how much we value his expertise.  
 Jim Spencer, W3BBB

## Helpful Info on the Third Annual Auction for the Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club on January 13

Hello all! My phone number was listed in QST and World Radio. I have been getting lots of calls as to what is going to be for sale at the Auction. As well as, what should I bring to sell. I have made a wish list of what people are looking for. If you have it, and would like to get rid of it, bring it!

TWO METER HT'S  
 LOW BAND RIG'S  
 TNC'S  
 HARDLINE  
 MOBILE RADIO'S  
 220 RADIO'S (ALL TYPES)  
 COMPUTER'S AND PARTS  
 MONITORS  
 SCANNERS  
 POWER SUPPLYS  
 AMP'S (VHF,UHF)

The above are the most asked for.  
 Good luck and 73 de Russ, W3CH

## Show and Tell

Are you proud of your "Shack"? Would you like other Hams to see what it looks like? But your spouse doesn't want a lot of people tramping through the house?

Well, just send a photo and a description of the equipment and we'll publish it here, for everyone to see.

New Hams would especially like to see what the "OLD" guys have. It will give them some ideas for their own "Shacks".

## THOSE COLORFUL CALLS OF HAM RADIO

W3 BIGGER BETTER BABIES  
 W3 EMPTY BEER MUGS  
 W3 PABST BLUE RIBBON  
 W3 JUMPING GREEN BEANS  
 W3 POOR WILLIE'S GHOST  
 W5 DON'T RUN AWAY  
 WO JUNGLE VOICE OF THE ROCKIES  
 W3 SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY  
 W3 GOOD MORNING AMERICA  
 W3 PIXEY  
 K3 RAGS TO RICHES  
 W3 JUICY APPLES  
 W3 FUZZY UNDER WEAR  
 W3 TEXAS KINGS AND QUEENS  
 W3 OLD WOODEN KEG  
 W3 NIPPER  
 WA3 CANDY COATED POPCORN  
 W3 ELECTRONIC COUPLED OSCILATOR  
 W5 RADIO FREQUENCY ZOMBIES  
 W9 NADA QUE FALTA  
 W3 APPLE PAN DOWDY  
 W3 DOLLAR SIGN GEORGE

Some of these calls are now Silent Keys and some are former calls or Club Calls which the older Philmonters will recognize.

ROLLAND, W3PWG.

## Silent Key

George Hengen, W3NCO passed away in Florida. He was known at Philmont during the 10 meter days.

## Hi - Tech and Ham Radio

In recent weeks, I have read several messages expounding the need for amateur radio to "get with it" and upgrade its means of communication in the late 90's. There are some digital forms that I personally can see being quite useful and there are a few that are going to be very cost prohibitive for a lot of years to come.

It is my opinion that these newer hi-tech modes of operation are only going to be as reliable as the equipment required to make them work. If you have a digital repeater system it is no better off than a basic FM analog system and even more vulnerable to problems due to the added complexity.

To try and sell new technology to amateurs is like preaching to the choir since all of us would love to have the latest and greatest toys to play with. But, that isn't reality. Having all of these to support or improve on emergency communications is a weak selling point at best. Even the best of cellular and satellite systems can, do and will continue to fail or become overloaded rendering them virtually useless.

The more we complicate things, the greater the chances for failure.

My final point is that newer, better, faster, smaller, etc. is wonderful and all of these have their place. They are not necessarily, more reliable. Keeping things simple has a certain beauty all its own to which many of us can relate. So, if you mortgage the home and go buy the latest and greatest pocket-sized blue light all-mode HT, you may have something to brag about, for sure. But, your good old hand-held 2-meter FM, battery powered HT, used on a simplex frequency, is still the most reliable means of voice communications usable during an emergency.

Our continued viability and existence is not so much dependent upon our keeping pace with the advancements in technology as it is maintaining our reliability. Government agencies don't call us first in case of an emergency, but they do use us as their final line of defense because our un-complicated and proven means of communications can be relied upon to be effective in even the most adverse of conditions anywhere, and at anytime. So, I feel that our "simple" hobby certainly has a place in this world that can be relied upon for many more years to come. Don't feel this is only a rich man's hobby either. The amount of money you put into ham radio has no bearing on the enjoyment you receive. I know of several hams who spent literally thousands of dollars having the latest and biggest, greatest and finest equipment money can buy. Most of them said they had more fun when it was an old S38D receiver and a home-brew 6V6 transmitter, about as simple as you can get.....

73,

Paul Cavnar, NN7B

Serving our Community Through Amateur Radio

Washoe County ARES District Emergency Coordinator

Director, Northern Nevada Amateur Radio Services, KE7R

Visit our web page at: <http://www.qsl.net/nmars>

Submissions: ares-races@qth.net

## Amateur Radio News Release

# Free Money Available

THE FOUNDATION FOR AMATEUR RADIO, INC. a non-profit organization with headquarters in Washington, D.C., plans to administer sixty-six (66) scholarships for the academic year 1999 -2000 to assist licensed Radio Amateurs. The Foundation, composed of over seventy-five local area Amateur Radio Clubs, fully funds ten of these scholarships with the income from grants and its annual Hamfest. The remaining fifty-six (56) are administered by the Foundation without cost to the various donors.

Licensed Radio Amateurs may compete for these awards if they plan to pursue a full-time course of studies beyond high school and are enrolled in or have been accepted for enrollment at an accredited university, college or technical school. The awards range from \$500 to \$2500 with preference given in some cases to residents of specified geographical areas or the pursuit of certain study programs. Clubs, especially those in Delaware, Florida, Maryland, New Jersey, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas, Virginia and Wisconsin, are encouraged to announce these opportunities at their meetings, in their club newsletters, during training classes, on their nets and on their world wide web home pages. Additional information and an application form may be requested by letter or QSL card, postmarked prior to April 30, 1999 from:

FAR Scholars hips Post Office Box 831 Riverdale, MD 20738

The Foundation for Amateur Radio, incorporated in the District of Columbia, is an exempt organization under Section 501(C)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954. It is devoted exclusively to promoting the interests of Amateur Radio and those scientific, literary and educational pursuits that advance the purposes of the Amateur Radio Service.

### *Blurb* STAFF

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1999

## JANUARY

1999

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 Full Moon <input type="circle"/>	2
3  2M NCS KB3IV 10M NCS W3HFY 75M NCS W3PWG	4	5  CODE PRACTICE NET at 8 PM W3AOK	6  DIRECTORS' MEETING  W3BBB.	7  164th LICENSE EXAM Session at The Franklin Institute Registration begins at 6:00 Door close as 6:30 p.m. sharp!	8	9
10  2M NCS N3FTY 10M NCS W3HFY 75M NCS W3STW	11	12  CODE PRACTICE NET at 8 PM W3RM	13  GENERAL MEETING  at The Franklin Institute Refreshments at 7:00 p.m. Meeting starts at 7:30.	14	15	16  <i>Blurb DEADLINE!</i>
17 New Moon <input type="circle"/>	18  Martin Luther King's Birthday	19  CODE PRACTICE NET at 8 PM WA3NSP	20	21	22	23
24 2M NCS N30WM 10M NCS W3HFY 75M NCS KB3IV	25	26  CODE PRACTICE NET at 8 PM W3AOK	27	28	29  Ice cream cone rolling machine patented 1924	30
31 2M NCS W3BBB 10M NCS W3HFY 75M NCS W3BBB						